

Ice Breakers

- What parties do you have to go to this month?
- · Are you hosting anything for Christmas?
- Would you say the holidays are chaotic for you?

Read Luke 1:26-34

- · Was this a chaotic time in Mary's life?
- Okay, now what are the facts found here in this passage? (List them)

Read Luke 1:27 & 34 again

²⁷ to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary.

34 "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

- It tells us 3 times that Mary was a _____
- Do you have trouble believing in a virgin birth?
 Why or Why not?

NOTE: Some would say it's "degrading to their intelligence" or "biologically impossible" or "scientifically irrational" and can't be understood.

- Do we have to understand something for it to be truth?
- What's something you don't understand, yet you know it is true?

NOTE: There are many who would like to reduce the virgin birth to fairy tale status. But, God can do the impossible!

If I reject the virgin birth, what does it mean?

- 1. Implies God's Word is only partial truth!
 - Is there absolute truth in this world?
 - Why is it dangerous to write off parts of God's Word?
- 2. Implies that Mary and Joseph committed sin of promiscuity (sexual sin).
 - If Joseph impregnated Mary, how does that change things?
- 3. Implies Jesus was an imposter and a liar!
 - Did Jesus claim to be the Son of God or the son of Joseph?

Why should you and I believe in a virgin birth?

1. The Old Testament foretold Christ's virgin birth.

Read Jeremiah 31:22

²² How long will you wander, unfaithful Daughter Israel. The LORD will create a new thing on earth— the woman will return to the man."

Read Isaiah 7:14

¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

Read Genesis 1:1-3

¹ In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ² Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

³ And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

NOTE: If God can create a whole universe, surely He can create a child in the womb of a virgin!

2. The New Testament affirms the virgin birth.

Read Matthew 1:16

¹⁶ and Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, and Mary was the mother of Jesus who is called the Messiah.

Read Luke 3:23

Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry. He was the son, so it was thought, of Joseph, the son of Heli,

Read Luke 2:48-49

- When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."
- ⁴⁹ "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?"
- Do these verses affirm the virgin birth? How?
- 3. The Atonement demands a virgin birth.
- What is the "atonement" in your words?
 (Answer first then look at the answer at the end of the page)
- Why was it necessary?
- Why was the shedding of God's blood important?
- Look up each of the following verses. Why was blood important according to each verse?

Read 1 Peter 1:19

¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

Read Acts 20:28

²⁸ Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood.

Read Hebrews 9:12

¹² He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption.

Read 1 John 1:7

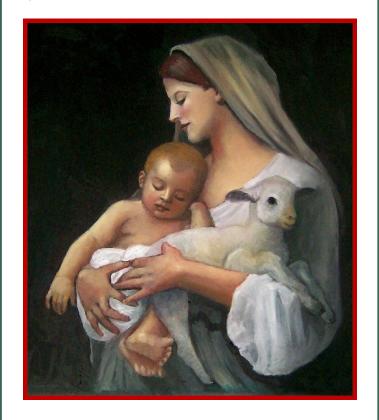
⁷ But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

Read Hebrews 13:20

- Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep,
- 4. The Incarnation demands a virgin birth.
- What is the "incarnation"?
 (Answer first then look at the answer at the end of the page)
- If Joseph formed Jesus in the womb, what does this mean for us?
- If God formed Jesus in the womb, what does this mean for us?

NOTE: We can't let the world push its views and agendas on us!

The world wants to reduce Christianity to a "natural religion" but it is "supernatural"!



Atonement—His blood for yours. Incarnation—God became flesh.

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